

I can tell you that MARTHA attacked it just like she does everything else. She approaches that with the same determination and intensity that she does in every other aspect of her life.

She pushes herself to her limits, and those are the qualities that she has displayed throughout her career, whether she was breaking glass ceilings in the military or fighting here in Congress to protect the A-10 Warthog.

She has made the most of her 2 years in the Senate, tying for the most bills signed into law during her first year. And Arizona has benefited from her tenacity and commitment.

MARTHA is tough and determined, but she is also kind and generous, all traits that were displayed in her farewell speech last week. There was a lot to admire in that speech. I was particularly struck by the gratitude that she displayed. A lesser person might have betrayed some bitterness at the brevity of her time here. MARTHA was just grateful—grateful for the opportunity to serve, grateful for the team who worked with her, grateful for what she was able to accomplish for Arizona.

I am grateful not only to have served with her but to have had her as a part of the whip team here in this Congress. Unsurprisingly, she was a dedicated and effective deputy whip, and I will miss having her on the team.

At the end of her farewell address, MARTHA said:

Today represents a change in seasons for me. I don't yet have clarity on what my next mission will be, but I do know who is the author and finisher of my faith and that He created each of us with a purpose.

I am confident that the author of our faith has more great missions in mind for MARTHA MCSALLY, and I look forward to seeing her take them on.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democratic leader is recognized.

CORONAVIRUS

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, everywhere you look, there are signs the country needs emergency Federal relief before the end of the year. Cases, hospitalizations, and deaths are rising. COVID restrictions are snapping back into place in cities and States around the country. Economists are warning of a double-dip recession if Congress fails to pass another round of fiscal stimulus.

The situation is really quite simple. There are flaring needs in the country, and we need to work across party lines to pass legislation to meet those needs. Let me say it again. We need both parties to sit down and compromise on

legislation to help the American people. That is the only way to get legislation passed. But observers of this process seem to have lost track of this simple truth. The Republican leader seems to have forgotten about it entirely.

Amazingly, it has been over 8 months since Congress came together to pass the CARES Act, and the leader's position has not budged. The majority leader continues to insist that the Senate accept one of his partisan Republican proposals, each one of which has been sorely inadequate and each of which has contained poison pills designed to ensure the bill's failure.

The most conspicuous of these poison pills is the so-called "red line" the majority leader has tried to draw on the issue of corporate immunity. Contrary to the majority leader's dire predictions, there has been no flood of COVID lawsuits—in fact, quite the opposite. Almost a year into this pandemic, with nearly 15 million Americans infected and 280,000 lives lost to COVID-19, there have only been 111 COVID-related lawsuits filed regarding conditions of employment, 23 suits for personal injury for exposure to the coronavirus in a public place, and 11 COVID-related medical malpractice suits.

Far from a pandemic of lawsuits, there has barely been a trickle. Yet the Republican leader continues to prevent Americans from getting the aid they so desperately need and deserve until he gets this piece of partisan, ideological legislation. Again, yesterday, while the leader was busy accusing Democrats of blocking "bipartisan" legislation that "everyone agrees on"—his words—other Members of the Republican leadership were making it clear that Leader MCCONNELL continues to insist on this particular poison pill. The Republican whip said that any relief must have corporate immunity provisions that "satisfy Senator MCCONNELL."

Imagine holding emergency aid hostage—help for the unemployed, help for small businesses, help to pay the salaries of police and firefighters, help for individual Americans, funding to deliver a vaccine—in order to give corporations legal immunity. But that has been the Republican position for the past 8 months, and it is the leader's position today.

For the sake of bipartisan negotiations, Republican leadership should forsake these hard-line positions. You can't claim to want bipartisanship while actively demanding the Senate accept partisan legislation. "Bipartisan" does not mean Democrats must agree to whatever the Republican leader wants on whatever issue he picks. "Bipartisan" means both sides—both sides—sitting down and finding agreement to meet the needs of the country and make a law. That process is happening with the Gang of 8. It should continue until we get a solution.

NOMINATION OF NATHAN SIMINGTON

Madam President, the Senate will also vote on the nomination of Nathan

Simington, a Republican nominee to the FCC.

Normally, these nominations to independent Boards and Commissions are paired—one Democrat, one Republican—to keep balance on the board, but here in the waning days of a lame-duck Presidency, the Republican majority is rushing to approve a single Republican nominee.

The nominee himself is far from uncontroversial. Mr. Simington's key qualifications seem to be that he supports President Trump's desired changes to section 230, a law that regulates internet speech. In fact, it appears that he severely misled Senators on the Commerce Committee when he told them that while working for a Federal agency, he played only an administrative role in his Department's petition for the repeal of section 230. It turns out that Mr. Simington was not only pushing the petition himself, he was actively lobbying FOX News to support it for political reasons.

I strongly urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to reject Mr. Simington's nomination to the FCC.

TRIBUTE TO TOM UDALL

Madam President, finally, as we approach the end of the Senate session, I have the unhappy task of bidding farewell to Senators who will be concluding their time in this Chamber. Within an hour, our dear friend and dear colleague, Senator TOM UDALL of New Mexico, will give his final speech here on the Senate floor.

For the past 12 years, Senators have been lucky to work with a legislator of Senator UDALL's caliber, someone who possesses a mastery of public policy, who is practical as well as principled. You always know where Senator UDALL stands on an issue, but you also know he is always willing to sit with you and work with you until you find common ground. Because of these qualities, TOM will leave this Chamber as a supremely accomplished legislator, a fierce defender of the environment, and a true champion of the American West.

A lot of politicians get described as wunderkinds for getting elected at a young age. You would be hard-pressed to find someone who got their start in politics earlier than TOM. He made his debut at the plucky age of 5, hoisting campaign signs on the back of his dad's convertible during his dad's first bid for Congress.

Public service runs deep in the veins of a Udall. It might be called the sap of the Udall family tree. Alongside his father, TOM looked up to his uncle Mo, who succeeded his father in Congress and ran for President as one of his generation's great environmental advocates. Not too long ago, the Senate rollcall featured two Udalls, TOM and his cousin Mark. Even now, our colleague from Utah, Senator LEE, is a second cousin to the Udall clan.

Ultimately, it was TOM's dad who taught him a lifelong love of the political process. During the years Stewart Udall served as Interior Secretary, TOM

would watch from the living room as his dad sat at the dinner table surrounded by Democrats and Republicans alike—both sides at dinner working together. Those memories left a mark. TOM would spend his time in Congress trying to do much the same. TOM's work with Senator Vitter led to one of his greatest accomplishments in office: the first major revision of the Toxic Substances Control Act in 40 years. At the time, it was the most significant environmental law to pass Congress in over 20 years.

TOM also had become one of the Senate's leading authorities on Tribal policy, cosponsoring over a quarter of the bills that passed through the Indian Affairs Committee on their way to being signed into law. Legislation to improve Tribal access to affordable healthcare and funding to support Native American language preservation programs and boost support for Native American entrepreneurs all bear the Udall stamp.

When it comes to protecting our environment and public lands, no one commands greater respect than the senior Senator from New Mexico. TOM helped increase funding for the Department of Interior by 25 percent, including billions to protect our national parks and expand our wildlife preserves. Through the Great American Outdoors Act, TOM helped secure permanent funding for the Land and Water Conservation Fund—a fund his dad helped establish over 40 years ago.

One of TOM's favorite authors, Wallace Stegner, once wrote:

Something will have gone out of us as a people if we ever let the remaining wilderness be destroyed. . . . We simply need that wild country available to us, even if we never do more than drive to its edge and look in.

Well, TOM did a whole lot more than “look in.” He preserved, he conserved, and he expanded the great American wilderness for generations hence.

These highlights, impressive as they are, are only the tip of the iceberg. Over his 12 years in office, TOM's legislative accomplishments ran the gamut of consumer protection, conservation policy, climate change, the protection of Tribal nations, and, most recently, a principled stand against the current administration's attempts to roll back critical environmental protections. Through it all, TOM has been unendingly civil, decent, and kind. He has deep friendships, real friendships, long-lasting friendships in our caucus and across the aisle. He prefers to solve problems, no matter who gets the credit, sometimes resisting the urge to make a splash in public.

Kidding aside, TOM is as down-to-earth as they come. There is just no artifice about him. He is a decent Senator and a man. You couldn't find any better. Other Senators will attest to these qualities, I am sure, and so will his staff—a tribute that is perhaps even greater. The respect and loyalty that Senator UDALL commands from those who work for him day in and day out is something extraordinary.

We don't know when a Udall will next grace the halls with their presence, but I do know this: Our country needs more leaders like TOM.

Senator UDALL once said his father and his uncle were lifelong role models because they had the right mix of inspiration and perspiration. He said: “They were both visionaries, but they were also doers.” I can think of no better description of TOM UDALL himself—a visionary but also a doer.

TOM, as you move on to the next chapter in your life, I wish you and Jill the very best of luck on the road ahead.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Mexico.

FAREWELL TO THE SENATE

Mr. UDALL. Madam President, I thank Senator SCHUMER for those kind remarks earlier.

As you know, I announced last year that I wasn't running for reelection, and if I had known everyone was going to be so nice to me, I might have announced it earlier.

I am not the only Senator who is giving a farewell speech. Many of us got to hear LAMAR ALEXANDER last week. LAMAR is the perfect example of what a U.S. Senator should be. Before I was wet behind the ears in the Senate, in my first week here, LAMAR invited me and Jill, my wife, to dinner. There it began. Jill and Honey, LAMAR's wife, became fast friends, and LAMAR and I grew closer, building the kind of friendship that is essential here in the Senate. We worked together to get things done for our States in bolstering our National Laboratories and conserving our great outdoors. Something else we shared was Mario, our barber in the Senate barbershop. To be honest, that is the best place to learn the wisdom of the Senate—by sitting in Mario's chair.

Friendships like I have with LAMAR and Mario are what I will miss most about the Senate. It is the friendships because, as any good Senator will tell you, friendships are what get you over the finish line. I will cherish the friendships I have forged over the last 12 years.

I will miss serving the people of New Mexico in Congress. The greatest honor of my life has been doing that, and I am confident that New Mexico will be in good hands with my friend Senator HEINRICH, my great partner over the last 8 years. With his dedicated advocacy for our communities and his love of the land—all of that—MARTIN has been an inspiration, and Senator-Elect BEN RAY LUJÁN, whom I have the privilege of calling a friend, I know will fight for New Mexico families every single day in the Senate.

I will miss the righteous struggle we take up in these Halls to build a more perfect Union, and I will miss all of you—my staff, colleagues, and everyone who works around the clock—and the unsung heroes who keep the Senate running, people like John, Leigh, Mary

Anne, and all of the folks who are here in front of you. There are too many to thank.

First and foremost, I thank my staff. Every Senator here knows we are only as good as the people on our teams, and as my friend PATRICK LEAHY says, we Senators are often just a constitutional impediment to the staff. Over the years, I have been blessed with staffers who are full of talent, skill, drive, and heart.

I don't want to leave anyone out, so I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD a list of all of my staff who have been part of Team UDALL.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

Ned Adriance, Anna Alexander, Beverly Allen, Anna Apodaca, Gabe Apodaca, Lauren Arias, Michael Bales, Paloma Arroyo-Lefebvre, Jonathan Black, Greg Bloom, Jessica Borchert, Billy Busch, Rene Camacho, Xochitl Campos, Jack Carpenter, Nick Carter, Sameer Chintamani, Dorcas Cisse, Leeanne Clark, Sarah Cobb, Emma Coghlan, Jennifer Collins, Michael Collins, Clinton Cowan, Tiffany Cox, Laura Creech, Walter Cross, Kevin Cummins, Cal Curley, Laura Davidson, Reyes De La Cruz, Sabrina De Santiago, Leticia Delgado, Francesca Di Palma, Kristine Dietz, Meredith Dixon, Noelle Dominguez, Elizabeth Driggers, Pablo Duran, Roger Duran.

Bobbie Ferrell, Rachel Fleischer, Meagan Foster, Tannis Fox, Claudette Frausto, Julia Friedmann, Jenna Frosch, Adam Fullerton, Ariel Garayar, Jack Gardner, Renée Gasper, Cara Gilbert, Fern Goodhart, Melanie Goodman, Marco Grajeda, Jessica Grubestic, Stephenne Harding, Jesse Hale, Emma Hamilton, Miranda Hernandez, Sierra Howlett, Cynthia Hull, Carolyn Ice, Michele Jacques-Ortiz, Stephen Jochem, Michael Johnson, Alex Jordan, Michelle Kavanaugh, Edward Kellum, Sean Kennedy, Caroline Klaff, Stephanie Kuo, Talia Lapid, Jeffrey Lopez, Michael Lopez, Yesenia Luna, Jeanette Lyman, Rachel Marchand, Crystal Martinez, Jaime McCarthy.

Jake McCook, Amber McDowell, Everette McKoy, Matt Miller, Elisa Morales, Donda Morgan, Rachel Montoya, Raven Murray, Tom Nagle, Ben Nathanson, Matt Nelson, Casey O'Neill, Annie Orloff, Steven Ortega, Bianca Ortiz Wertheim, Marissa Padilla, Matthew Padilla, Olivia Padilla, Russell Page, Carmela Quintana, Anna Rael Delay, Eddie Render, Alyssa Roberts, Kelly Romero, Rene Romo, Ken Rooney, Zachary Rosenberg, Carlos Sanchez, Joshua Sanchez, Ben Salazar, Laura Salgado, Alethea Scally, Alicia Schreiner, Anthony Sedillo, Kelly Seibert, Leo Sheehan, Sam Simon, Alyson Sincavage, Joshua Sisneros, Jeffrey Stein.

Jake Stewart, Kristina Swallow, Tomas Talamante, Jennifer Talhelm, Michael Thorning, Xochitl Torres Small, Patsy Trujillo, Lisa Van Theemsche, Roberto Vasquez, Anna Vavruska, Andrew Wallace, Daniel Watson, Zoe Wilson-Meyer, David Williams, Devon Wohl, Bill Woldman, Timothy Woodbury, Veronica Yoo, Jan Zastrow.

Mr. UDALL. I want to say thank you from the bottom of my heart to each of you for your hard work, your public service, and your commitment.

I want to thank my family—my parents Stewart and Lee Udall, who instilled in me the will to do good and to be good.

To my brothers, sisters—my sister Lori, who is here—and cousins who